

**Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee Minutes
February 16, 2010**

Attendance: John Bamberger, Karen Kowles, Peter Lillya, Fran VanTreese, Helene Ver Eecke, Chris Slem, Glenn Barrington(UMass Transit), Terry Forrest (Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission Consumer Statewide Transportation Taskforce member), Lynn Grabowski(Mass Bike), Walter Wolnik (guest)

Meeting came to order at 4:05 pm in the Town Room at Town Hall.

Minutes of the Jan 19, 2010 meeting were approved.

Glenn Barrington reported July-Jan ridership on route 32 has increased in FY2010 by 17% compared to the same period in FY2009.

Special needs of MRC consumers – Terry Forrest pointed out that handicapped people have special transportation needs that are not always met. An example is the poor coordination between busses operated by UMass transit and busses in Franklin County. Consequently, a bus trip between Amherst and Greenfield takes a long time. Terry will begin to collect information from MRC consumers and compile contact information for relevant officials.

Revised Committee Charge – The revised charge adopted by the Committee in June 2009 was never submitted to the Selectboard and Town meeting. The charge was discussed again, and a revised charge was voted unanimously with the following changes.

- Voting members increased from 7 to 9.
- Non-voting liaisons will no longer be specified.
- Under Committee charge summary, the second sentence beginning, “Customarily a Committee...” was deleted.
- Points 1-8 renumbered and a ninth concerning transportation needs of the handicapped was added.

Helene will serve as “point person” for guiding this through the required “hoops”, draft of warrant article in Fran cannot complete it, Selectboard approval, summary statement for Town Meeting members. Peter will present to the Finance Committee; selection of a spokesperson at Town Meeting will be made later.

Peter Lillya will attend March meetings of the Finance Committee to represent PTBC: Thur 4th at 7 pm – Transportation Enterprise Fund and Thur 11th – changes in PTBC charge. Relevant to the TEF is the commitment the Town Manager has from PVTa to take over 75% funding of the Town’s outreach routes (#’s 32 & 36) when they receive “forward funding” from the Commonwealth and 50% bus occupancy.

Helene Ver Eecke reported on discussion and approval of allotment of parking spaces on Boltwood Ave. and Spring St. to the Lord Jeffrey Inn by the Parking Task Force.

New Restaurant sign on N. Pleasant St. north of Henion Bakery – The Committee took no position on this.

Next meeting – 4 pm Tue 16 March

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Lillya, secretary